**Notification on route rationalisation**

630. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Civil Aviation has issued a route rationalisation notification recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the notification is applicable only to Indian Airlines and Air India or it applies to private players also;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (e) With a view to effecting greater synergy in the operations of Air India and Indian Airlines, avoiding needless competition between the two airlines to the detriment of both, utilising the resources of the two airlines optimally, and serving the needs of passenger in a coordinated and cooperative manner, Government issued directive on 3rd January, 2003 to Air India and Indian Airlines allocating them routes in South-East Asia and Gulf. However operation of this directive has been kept in abeyance pending a fresh review. These instructions were applicable to Air India and Indian Airlines only as the purpose of the exercise was to avoid needless competition and having synergy between the national carriers owned by Government.

**Profit/losses of AI and IA**

†631. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the profits earned or losses suffered by the Air India and the Indian Airlines during the last three years?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.